





Contact: Ray Mowery (417) 967-2028 Ext. 3

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT JOINS WITH TEXAS COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IN A CELEBRATION OF THE HOSPITAL EXPANSION

Houston, Missouri – October 27, 2010 – Agricultural Administrator for the Rural Housing Service, Tammye Trevino and USDA Rural Development State Director, Anita J. (Janie) Dunning, today participated in an event to celebrate funding for the Texas County Memorial Hospital (TCMH).

"The Texas County Memorial Hospital is to be congratulated on the expansion of the health care facilities to improve the services to the residents of Texas County and the surrounding area," said Trevino.

The certificate was presented in celebration of \$18,013,378 of funding for construction and renovation of the existing facility. Texas County



From left: Janet Wiseman and Omanez Fockler, Hospital trustees; Janie Dunning, Missouri State Director of USDA Rural Development; David Rauch, District Director for U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill; Wes Murray, TCMH CEO; and Tammye Trevino, Administrator, Rural Housing Service, USDA Rural Development.

Memorial Hospital was established in 1958 and is licensed for 66 beds, employing 300 individuals, providing surgical, obstetrical, emergency, physical therapy, home health hospice, sleep lab studies, and cardiac rehabilitation services. The hospital's mission is to provide Total Commitment to Maximum Healthcare.

American Recovery and Reinvestment (ARRA) funds will be used for construction of new buildings to expand the Emergency & Urgent Care Departments, a new Radiology Suite, and Expansion of the Surgery Department plus increase the square footage for the Obstetrics and ICU Departments. This project will create over 200 construction-related jobs.

This renovation and expansion will create approximately 38,000 additional square feet to house these facilities and will be completed in three phases. Approximately 23,003 residents of Texas County and the surrounding area will be better served in meeting their medical needs.

"Houston is my hometown and I am pleased to hear that USDA has announced they will be able to fund the Texas County Hospital project," said U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill. "By expanding and renovating the facility, the hospital will be able to provide better health care services to more people while creating jobs in the area."

Wes Murray, Chief Executive Officer, said, "We are extremely grateful to USDA and Rural Development for acknowledging our need and seeing the merit of our project based on the application we submitted. The USDA and Rural Development have shown the faith they have in TCMH and in our community. This loan will help TCMH advance healthcare forward in the rural communities we serve for many years."

"This is a great partnership effort when everyone works together for the common goal of meeting the medical needs of a community," said Dunning. "This project mirrors USDA Rural Development's mission and President Obama's initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities. I want to personally thank everyone that has worked together to make this project a reality and I am pleased that so many residents of Texas County and the surrounding area will benefit from Rural Development funding.

Anyone seeking more information about the Rural Development Community Facility program or any other USDA Rural Development programs may visit the homepage at http://www.rurdev.gov/mo or contacting the Springfield Area Office at 688 S. State Highway B, Suite 400, Springfield, MO 65802 or calling (417) 831-5246, ext 5.

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